

FALL 2024 STRING MUSIC

Thoughts/requests/changes from your directors.

STRINGS: Please READ this information and make changes/markings that are mentioned. It might be useful to print these pages and put them in your folder so that you have the info.

Soundfiles-STRINGS:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/j6gr5idjuf5y3f1axf6t2/AA0vx-P9u1aFfv6Nykat8E?rlkey=iawrekuhd7stlwdszhgj5zfhw&st=4y1lm1b&dl=0>

Beethoven Symphony No.6

Kett says,

This symphony is also known as *Pastoral Symphony*, named by Beethoven himself, it is moving tribute to the beauty of nature. In the original symphony you'll hear long passages of unchanging harmony that imitates the flow of nature. We are only playing parts of the first movement titled "Awakening of Happy Feelings on Arriving in the Country." but I encourage you to listen to the whole symphony because it is so beautiful. I hope you enjoy playing and practicing this one.

SOUNDFILE:

Our practice soundfile is available in the Dropbox folder, "Soundfiles-STRINGS" - link above.

Here is a soundfile of the Vienna Symphony playing Beethoven's 6th Symphony.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CpMIsPfk-Y>

Themes from Rhapsody in Blue by George Gershwin, arr. Carrie Lane Gruselle

Kett says,

This piece is one of the most influential pieces written by American composer George Gershwin, as it introduces jazz music to classical audience. From the jazzy glissando opening of clarinet solo to the triumph ending, memorable tunes and exciting rhythm that captivates every listener. You'll find some rhythmic challenges in this arrangement but I can assure you that you can execute it easily if you listen to the recording a couple of times. If you haven't played jazzy stuff before, you're in for a treat! You'll play a little bit of everything in this arrangement.

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Here is a video of Leonard Bernstein at the piano playing and conducting Rhapsody in Blue.

<https://youtu.be/CH2PH0auTUU>

Largo (from the "New World Symphony") by Antonin Dvorak/arr. Percy Hall

Oliver says,

This gorgeous piece is from Dvorak's New World Symphony. After visiting Iowa in 1893, the composer was inspired both by the open prairies and by African-American spirituals. In fact, the theme from the Largo is often mistaken as a folk song, but is in fact an original composition. The harmonies are rich, and the phrases are long, so we'll be working thoroughly on intonation and feeling large beats! (Notice that we will not be playing the whole piece – there is a written in cut.)

SOUNDFILE:

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Here is a recording of the full Symphony No. 9 (From the New World), performed by the Berlin Philharmonic, Herbert von Karajan, conducting

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P_1N6_O254g

Pavane by Gabriel Fauré / arr. Bob Phillips

Oliver says,

Oh I love, love, love this piece. There's just this wonderful balance of elegance, simplicity, and an understated sadness. While this is technically another French composer writing a Spanish dance, it's about as far as you can get from Carmen!

People with dotted rhythms should be careful not to slow down, and metronome work is encouraged for the off-beat pizzicatos (off-beats tend to slow down, pizzicato tends to rush).

SOUNDFILE:

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Here is a recording of Fauré's "Pavane", performed by the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Seiji Ozawa, conducting (notice the vocal parts!)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SZ0hekvostU>